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GEORGE COUNTY TIMES LUCEDALE, MISSISSIPPI

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LIFE HISTORY OF DR. J. A. DORSETT

By  
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The year 1902 was a notable one in George County history for it was in that year that our Fellow Citizen of this week came to Lucedale. A mother's kiss woke him into consciousness March 30, 1877; he laughed and played into childhood; he sobered into manhood, educated himself, moved here and has done much toward making this the prosperous county that it is. The early days of Dr. Dorsett were spent on a farm near Harpersville, Mississippi, where he received his public school education. With only a determined will and plenty of spunk, he began the study of medicine at the University of Alabama. He transferred to Emory University of Atlanta, Georgia, but before completing his medical work he taught several schools in George and Greene counties.

It was in October 1902 that Dr. Dorsett began the practice of medicine in Lucedale. Three years later he was married to Miss Lula Roberts whom he says was the prettiest girl of her day. To them have been born five children: Laverge. Mrs. Tom Doty, Florence, Miss.; A. E. "Pete" Dorsett, Lucedale, Miss.; Lillian, Mrs. Cereal Bufkin, Mobile, Alabama; Carolyn, Mrs. H. H. Parker, Lucedale, Miss.; Dorothy "Dot" Dorsett, Lucedale, Miss. Dr. and Mrs. Dorsett have an unusual interest in their children and have taken much delight in giving them the best advantages possible.

As a Physician and Surgeon Dr. Dorsett has few equals in this sec-

tion of the state. He began his practice in the "horse and buggy" days but bought a car as early as 1909. After many years of service in his chosen profession, he still enjoys being moderately busy during the day. However, Dr. Dorsett says, "There are plenty of 'boys' to do the night practice."

A few people think of Dr. Dorsett as being a "tightwad", but in reality he is a very public-spirited man. He, Murdoch Griffin, and four others were the builders of the first Baptist Church in Lucedale. In 1911 he played a big part in the organization of George County. But it was after the July storm in 1916 that he did his greatest work, since it was through his efforts that George County was given \$10,000 by the Federal Government for relief.

At the age of 61 Dr. Dorsett is still active in his profession. During his 36 years in Lucedale he has served eight years as county health officer, four years as mayor, eight years as alderman, and eight years as trustee of the South Mississippi Charity Hospital, at Laurel. At the present time he operates the Lucedale Drug Store and several farms, is president of the Dorsett-Grafe Auto Co., a member of the board of directors of the Bank of Lucedale, a mason, a K. of P. in good standing and a member of the Baptist church. Dr. Dorsett holds a prominent place as one of the progressive citizens who believes in a great future for the town of Lucedale and the county of George.

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